

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Premier Zhao's White House Speech
- China's Population Policy: Today and Yesterday





Mothers of one-child families receive awards in Hebei Province.



Medical workers in the countryside teaching women in Jiangsu's Rudong County about the birth control methods. Population growth of the county was kept under 5 per thousand from 1974 to 1981.



Medical workers at a marriage registration office in Shanghai teach a newly wed couple about family planning and healthy offspring.

SPOTLIGHT

Children of a nursery in Beijing bathing in a newly built bathhouse.



Han Aiguo, a research worker in Anshan city, Liaoning Province, gives lecture on producing healthy offspring to family-planning propagandists.



BEIJING REVIEW

Vol. 27, No. 3 January 16, 1984

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COVER:

A family-planning billboard above the children reads: "Hope for the Next Generation" — To be healthy, intelligent and beautiful.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Zhao Speaks at White House Welcoming Ceremony

While affirming progress in Sino-US relations and pointing out difficulties and obstacles to their further development, Premier Zhao said he believed Sino-US relations will follow a smooth path, provided both countries strictly abide by the principles set in the joint communiques and carry out their obligations (p. 15).

Population Policy: Its Origin and Development

Qian Xinzong, adviser to the Ministry of Public Health, reviews China's population growth and changes in policy since 1949 and explains why the "one couple, one child" policy is necessary today (p. 17).

Census Shows Static Population

In the first of a series on the results of the computer tabulations of a 10 per cent representative sample from the third national census, statistics on China's population show it is changing from an increasing to a static state. A complete breakdown of age distribution shows that the number of children is falling off, while the number of old people increases (p. 20).

Establishing a New International Economic Order

In demanding a new economic order, the third world countries intend to safeguard their economic rights, escape the control and exploitation of international economic organizations and play a more effective role in deciding international economic policy. Their demand reflects the present world economic situation, and is certainly not outdated or utopian, as some have alleged (p. 23).

National Congresses of Democratic Parties

The successive national congresses held last December by eight democratic parties will help expand the patriotic united front, strengthen multi-party co-operation led by the Chinese Communist Party and inspire them to work for the modernization and reunification of China (p. 8).

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Distributed by China International Book
Trading Corporation (GUOJI SHUDIAN),
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):

Australia	A\$12.00	USA... US\$13.00
New Zealand... NZ\$14.00		UK £6.80
Canada	Can. \$15.00	



Religious Policy in Full Force

by XIN LIN

Social Editor

As the bell chimed the midnight hour of December 25, 1983, the Mass reached its climax at the Xujiahui Catholic Church in Shanghai, packed with 3,000 local Catholics and more than 100 foreigners. The same day, the birth of Jesus Christ was celebrated at the municipality's 30 other Catholic and Christian churches. Elsewhere in China, churchgoers passed Christmas Day with the same joy.

These events show that the policy on religious freedom set forth in the Constitution has been further implemented in the last few years, and that religious activities are enjoying increasing protection by the Constitution and state law.

Last year, Chinese Catholics celebrated the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the China Catholic Patriotic Association and the consecration of their own bishop. The 30th anniversaries of the founding of the China Islamic Association and the China Buddhist Association were also

marked. Today, religious training schools are being established by religious groups, each of which has its own journal. Religious groups in this country have also increased their exchanges with the rest of the world.

Although Chinese Communists are atheists, they advocate freedom

would be trying to eliminate religion through administrative orders or other compulsory means. Rather, freedom of religious beliefs should be upheld as long as there are still religions and religious believers. This is not an expedient; it is our basic, long-term policy.

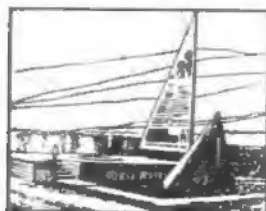
It is not at all surprising to see some young people in China become religious believers. Some of them grew up in religious families. Others seek consolation in religion either because they failed to correctly approach their setbacks in study, work or daily life or because they were disillusioned when their personal problems were not promptly solved. It is only natural, too, that under the policy of religious freedom the number of religious believers grows in some places while it diminishes in others.

Marxism is worlds apart from any type of theism in its global outlook. But in present-day China differences in religious beliefs are secondary to the people's common fundamental political and economic interests. The overwhelming majority of religious followers love their socialist motherland and are willing to do their best in the socialist modernization drive. Many of them have made big contributions in doing their jobs.

Tens of millions of people in China believe in Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Catholicism and Christianity. These faiths are equal, and none dominates.

It is unrealistic to suppose religion will die quickly with the establishment of the socialist system. Rather, freedom of religion will be upheld as long as there are still religions and religious believers.

of religious belief. This is because they see religion as a historical phenomenon in human society, and believe it develops along the inevitable process of emergence, growth and dying out. This process can never be accomplished according to any person's will. Rather, religion will come to its natural end only when all the objective conditions have been prepared through long years of socialist and communist development. It is unrealistic to suppose religion will die quickly with the establishment of the socialist system and the development of its economy and culture. Unrealistic, too,



Obvious Changes

As this is the last letter I will write to you in 1983, I'd like to take the opportunity to send you my sincere greetings and I hope you will continue your praiseworthy efforts in publishing your important magazine about China.

I have bound every issue of your magazine since I received the first one, and have noticed now you have changed with delight. Congratulations!

It is good to carry documents separately in each issue, as they are easier to consult.

Will you please try, in the coming issues, to cover the following themes:

1. Educational games in China.
2. Rivers of China.
3. Protection of endangered wild life.

Miguel Ramon Bauset
Alborata, Spain

Longing to Visit China

I read your issue No. 50, 1983 with pleasure. I believe the friendly relationship between China and Japan will develop rapidly following General Secretary Hu Yaobang's visit. Together with my wife, I attended his speech. The majority of Japanese youth long to be among the 3,000 Japanese who will visit China in the coming autumn. If they work shoulder to shoulder with the Chinese youths, who are dedicated to their country's modernization drive, herding sheep on the northwestern pastures and planting trees in the desert areas, there is no doubt these areas will be covered with vast forests in the 21st century. How marvellous it will be!

You introduced Prof. Joseph Needham in issue No. 50, 1983. If it is possible, please arrange a special feature about his life and works. It may be a series, carried

in several issues. I think it will help us a lot.

Takaaki Kunizawa
Fukujima, Japan

More on Interests And Recreation

I am satisfied with your present editorial principles, and appreciate the fact that you are changing your layout and using more photographs.

I once argued that there were too few subheads in your articles, and you have increased them. The whole magazine is more readable. It is clear that yours is a weekly of news and views, but if it is too monotonous, the readers will find it boring. I suggest that you carry more cartoons, masthead pictures and articles about interests and recreation. The Japanese readers will be very pleased if you introduce works by the many excellent child painters of China.

Satao Yamada
Kasaoka, Japan

'Africa' and 'Events & Trends'

I like the column "Africa" in your French edition because it helps us know what is happening in other African countries.

By reading the column "From the Chinese Press," in which you follow the development of the production and construction, I have been able to see the rapid changes in your country.

I also think that official documents are useful and I enjoy reading all of them. They help me know more about China.

Mouakassa-Moukiam
Marcel Santos
Congo

I enjoy reading "Africa," which presents me with the affairs of various countries in Africa.

The columns "From the Chinese Press" and "A Glimpse of China"

(a French edition column) are both attractive. I like them.

Mabiala Michel
Nkayi, Congo

Spare-Time Activities for School Children

The *Beijing Review* for September 5, 1983 contains several interesting and illuminating articles about the mood and the direction of the People's Republic of China. I particularly enjoyed the in-depth account of young science enthusiasts, "The Story of a Child Inventor." It shows the kindling of genius by interested and highly intelligent parents. (This coincides with a finding of recent American research into what makes a good student and an advanced scholar in our culture as well as elsewhere in the world.) The reverse is also true—the non-intellectual and uninterested parents do not set their children on fire to learn and achieve, despite all the teachers' efforts.

John P. Briggs
Mass., USA

Suggested Subjects

The following subjects, I think, include what my students and I all hope to know about:

1. The co-operation system.
2. The promotion of the technological development in people's communes.
3. Agriculture, animal husbandry and planning of people's communes.
4. Organized recreation.
5. Handicrafts.
6. Horticulture.
7. Emergency medical care

Mercedes Cespedes Tamayo
La Union, Colombia



President Ronald Reagan and Premier Zhao Ziyang at the White House welcoming ceremony.

Zhao Officially Welcomed by Reagan

Premier Zhao Ziyang's historic visit to the United States—the first to that country by a Chinese premier—was officially inaugurated as US President Ronald Reagan warmly welcomed him at a White House ceremony on the morning of Jan. 10.

The seven-day visit is widely regarded as a major event in both Sino-US and international relations.

Speaking at the welcoming ceremony held on the south lawn of the White House, Reagan said Zhao's visit shows the increasing development of trust and co-operation between the United States and China. In the past 10 years, he said, relations between

the two countries have been continually strengthened. (Diplomatic relations between China and the United States were established in 1979.)

"We recognize the differences between our two countries," said Reagan, "but we stand ready to nurture, develop and build upon the many areas of accord to strengthen the ties between us."

He praised China's exciting experiments in the pursuit of economic modernization. "Our people understand and appreciate the vigour," he said. "We welcome the opportunity to walk at China's side in this endeavour."

"We have much to discuss—matters of bilateral, regional and

global importance," he continued. "We share many concerns, especially in the arena of international peace and stability."

Zhao said his visit was intended to "increase mutual understanding, stabilize bilateral relations, promote Sino-US friendship and defend world peace." (For the full text of Zhao's White House speech, see page 15.)

After the ceremony, the two leaders exchanged views on the development of Sino-US relations and international issues of common concern.

Later at a luncheon given by US Secretary of State George Shultz, Zhao said during his toast that China hopes to build durable

and stable friendly relations with the United States.

Zhao left Beijing for his official visit to the United States and Canada on Jan. 7, stopping over first in Hawaii and Williamsburg before arriving in Washington.

Crowds on Oahu, the third largest of the Hawaiian islands, lined up along the streets, waving and shouting "Aloha" (the native greeting) as Zhao and the other distinguished Chinese guests arrived.

While on Oahu, Zhao and his party visited the Polynesia Cultural Centre and Brigham Young University (Hawaii campus). They watched a 20-minute special Polynesian performance involving hundreds of local residents.

Zhao also visited Pearl Harbour and the USS Arizona National Memorial, and attended a reception at the East-West Centre, meeting its president, Dr. Victor Hao Li, and other leading officials.

At a dinner given by State Governor George Ariyoshi, Zhao said: "Hawaii is the part of the United States nearest to China, and also the first American state to which the Chinese people sailed."

"There has been a long history of contacts between China and Hawaii," he said. "It was in Hawaii that the great Chinese revolutionary, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, carried out revolutionary activities in his early years."

He noted that Hawaii was also the second homeland of Soong Ching Ling, the late Honorary President of the People's Republic of China.

Zhao predicted that as "Sino-US relations enter a new stage, our contacts with you here should be closer than before."

Zhao then flew on to the mainland United States, touching down at Williamsburg, where men and women dressed in 18th century

costumes greeted the Premier and his party in the traditional manner. Zhao expressed great interest in the historic buildings and craft shops of Williamsburg.

Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, speaking on behalf of Zhao at a luncheon in the Premier's honour given by Charles Longworth, President of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, said: "To be here in the old historic town and review the glorious history of the American people fighting for national independence from colonial rule is especially meaningful for us Chinese."

Zhao attended a tea party given by US Vice-President George Bush at his residence shortly after his arrival in Washington on Jan. 9.

Wan Li Meets Polish Minister

Vice-Premier Wan Li has told the visiting Polish Minister of Foreign Trade that China is concerned about the internal situation in socialist Poland.

"We are glad to see that the Polish people have overcome one difficulty after another, and that the political situation has become stable and the country's economy is improving," he told Tadeusz Nestorowicz on Dec. 31.

Commenting on Nestorowicz's talks with his Chinese counterpart Chen Muhua and other government officials, Wan said, "This helps develop trade and economic co-operation between the two countries."

He noted that Sino-Polish trade has grown rapidly in recent years.

Nestorowicz said he recognized the enormous possibilities for further co-operation after his talks with the Chinese officials.

"The Chinese side has agreed to earnestly consider the establish-

ment of a mixed commission on economic, trade and technical co-operation," he said.

There also exist possibilities, he said, for co-operation in coal mining, non-ferrous metals, enterprise revamping and rail transport.

Imelda Marcos Visits China

Chinese Acting Premier Wan Li paid tribute to Madame Imelda Marcos, special envoy and wife of the President of the Philippines, for her efforts to normalize diplomatic ties between the two countries and enhance bilateral relations, in his speech at a banquet given in her honour.

Wan said China is satisfied with the continuing progress of Sino-Philippine relations of friendship and co-operation over the past nine years, based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

Madame Marcos, who arrived in China on Jan. 7 for a 4-day visit, said relations between the Chinese and Philippine people is developing, and she is convinced that this friendship will be enduring.

Wan said China appreciates the Philippines' position on many issues. It condemns the super-power rivalry in Southeast Asia, and demands the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea. The Philippines supports the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the restoration of independence, peace and neutrality in that country.

In their talks on Jan. 8, Wan and Madame Marcos exchanged views on further developing friendly relations between the two countries, expanding trade and co-operation in science, technology and culture.



Party and state leaders meet democratic party delegates.

Congresses of China's Democratic Parties

China's democratic parties together with the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce held their successive national congresses before the end of 1983. They all reviewed their work since 1979, set their tasks for the next five years, revised their party constitutions and elected new leadership. These activities will help expand the patriotic united front, strengthen multi-party co-operation led by the Communist Party of China, and inspire them to work for the modernization and the reunification of the motherland.

Many excellent young people have been elected to the leadership of the central committees of the eight parties — the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang, the China Democratic League, the China Democratic National Construction Association, the China As-

sociation for Promoting Democracy, the Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party, the China Zhi Gong Dang, the Jiu San Society and the Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League.

Li Ganliu, 50, deputy mayor of Handan in Hebei Province and the son of Li Liejun, a former high-ranking patriotic general of the Kuomintang, was elected Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang. Sheng Zhongguo, 41, a noted violinist, and Liu Dehai, a famous *pipa* (a plucked string instrument with a fretted fingerboard) player, were elected alternate members of the Central Committee of the China Democratic League.

Considering the activities of the democratic parties very important, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China sent Wang

Zhen and Xi Zhongxun, Members of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee to extend greetings to the congresses. Deng Xiaoping, Hu Yaobang and other Party and state leaders received all the delegates to the congresses on separate occasions. They highly value the contributions made by the democratic parties in developing the patriotic united front and socialist modernization.

Multi-party co-operation, led by the Communist Party, is important in building a socialist country with Chinese characteristics. The democratic parties discuss and decide on state affairs with the Chinese Communist Party. The leaders and many other members of the democratic parties have held leading posts in government organizations and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. In the past two years,

more than 7,000 members of the democratic parties have held leading posts in national and local people's congresses at various levels.

China's eight democratic parties were founded in the 1940s. Since the founding of New China, the Chinese Communist Party has implemented the policy of "long-term coexistence and mutual supervision" in its relations with the democratic parties, and has respected the organizational independence and political freedom of these parties. They have therefore been able to develop rapidly. However, under the influence of the ultra-Left trend of thought during the "cultural revolution," the democratic parties were forced to suspend their activities and many members withdrew from their organizations. The Party Central Committee reaffirmed the policy of "long-term coexistence and mutual supervision" in December 1978, and the democratic parties

have since then resumed their work.

Since the democratic parties renewed their efforts to expand their organizations in 1979, they have recruited more than 55,000 new members, bringing the total to 120,000. There are organizations of the democratic parties all over the Chinese mainland (except Tibet).

The democratic parties have opened new avenues for China's socialist construction, particularly in border areas inhabited by minority nationalities. (For details, see issue No. 45, 1983).

Features of Draft Patent Law

The Patent Law of the People's Republic of China (draft), recently submitted to the National People's Congress Standing Com-

mittee for discussion and approval, will allow foreigners and foreign enterprises to apply for patents in China.

The director of the Patent Office of China, Huang Kunyi explained the concept of patent law in socialist China in an article in *Renmin Ribao*.

The law is designed to protect and encourage inventions and promote the development of technology and economy, so as to meet the needs of modernizing industry, agriculture, national defence and science and technology. It is compatible with the socialist economic base.

Huang also explained other features of the draft patent law. Except for a few research projects undertaken jointly with foreigners, patents for the inventions produced by people in the course of performing their tasks assigned by Chinese work units, or produced mainly by using material condi-

10 Major Domestic Events In 1983

1. June: The First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress convened in Beijing on June 6. The post of president of the state was restored, and Li Xiannian was elected President of the People's Republic of China (see "Beijing Review" Vol. 26, issue Nos. 24, 25 and 26).

2. June: It became general practice for state-owned enterprises to pay taxes instead of turning in profits (see issue Nos. 10 and 21).

3. June: Deng Xiaoping put forward some proposals for the peaceful reunification of China (see issue No. 32).

4. August: China started talks with Britain about resuming the exercise of China's sovereignty over Xionggang (Hong-kong) (see issue No. 30).

5. July: The "Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping" was published (see issue No. 28).

6. August: The organizational reforms aimed at streamlining government institutions, bringing younger cadres into leading posts and raising efficiency at the provincial level were completed (see issue No. 35).

7. September: A crackdown on severe criminals was launched, and public security took a turn for the better (see issue Nos. 35, 37 and 50).

8. September: At the Fifth National Games in Shanghai, Zhu Jianhua cleared 2.38 metres to set a world high-jump record (see issue Nos. 39, 40 and 43).

9. October: The Second Plenary Session of the 12th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China opened in Beijing on October 11. It decided to begin a three-year Party consolidation campaign and do away with ideological contamination (see issue Nos. 42, 44 and 46).

10. Chinese peasants reaped record grain and cotton harvests, despite serious natural disasters, especially floods (see issue No. 52).

tions available in the units concerned, will go to these socialist Chinese enterprises or institutions. The inventors will receive remuneration and awards, according to their contributions.

In socialist China where public ownership predominates, exclusive patent rights are different from those under a capitalist system. Work units owned by the whole people, which have got patents, should not deny the benefits of their inventions to other work units also owned by the whole people. The draft patent law therefore has clauses dealing with compulsory licensing, in order to prohibit monopolies of patented techniques.

Inventions which are contrary to state law or detrimental to socialist mores and the public interests will not be patented.

The draft patent law also contains clauses which will facilitate the implementation of China's policy of opening to the outside world. Foreigners, foreign enterprises or other foreign organizations are allowed to apply for patents in China for their inventions made under treaties or in accordance with reciprocal principles and their patents will be protected without discrimination.

Chinese citizens and work units can also apply for patents in other countries for their inventions made at home, after going through certain procedures.

China Surveys Land Resources

China began surveying its land resources in 83 per cent of the 2,300 counties in 1978. Now, many are completed, and a wide body of scientific data has been collected.

The programme covers soil, land resources and current land

use surveys in order to provide a scientific basis for the division of agricultural zones, adjustment of agricultural structure and distribution of crops. It will also promote rational planting, and raise productivity and the rate of land use.

Analysis of the nutrients in soils of 44.66 million hectares of farmland shows that their organic content is fairly low, and that 57 per cent of the farmland is deficient in phosphorus and 20 per cent in potassium. Still another 5 per cent of what was formerly farmland has been engulfed by sand dunes.

Land use survey showed that the area of cultivated land in many regions is larger than the current statistics suggest.

More than 1,000 counties have already used the data collected in the surveys in dividing agricultural zones and drawing up plans for agricultural development. For instance, since 1979 Shandong Province has turned low-yielding alkaline land over to cotton growing, enjoying a high yield for five years running. Last year, the province's cotton output topped one million tons, an all-time high.

Slack management and the lack of unified planning for a long time in the past has resulted in more land being occupied by urban and rural capital construction than the newly reclaimed farmland. This, plus the growth of the population, has reduced the country's per-capita farmland from 0.17 hectare in the early 1950s to the present 0.1 hectare.

Since 1980, the area of cultivated land occupied by capital construction projects has been markedly reduced, compared with the 1960s and 1970s.

The ongoing survey of land resources is the largest of its kind since 1949. The state and various localities have invested 200 million yuan in this programme, in

which 300,000 people are participating. The elementary survey of land areas, land texture and land use will be completed by 1985, and a more thorough survey of land use will be completed by 1990. Accurate data about different types of land will be collected, and a system of land registration will be instituted.

Guidelines Set For Science

The State Science and Technology Commission recently announced that the drive against ideological contamination should not be extended to natural science and technology.

To encourage scientists and technicians to be bold in exploring and blazing new trails, six guidelines for science and technology, which have been approved by the State Council, were published not long ago by the State Science and Technology Commission. They are:

1. Scientists and technicians should be encouraged to study and master new achievements in their fields from anywhere in the world. Natural science and technology are themselves without class nature. New discoveries should not be regarded as "heresies" or "bourgeois sugar-coated bullets."

2. Many new, peripheral sciences are emerging in the areas between the natural and social sciences. A conscientious effort should be made to study and truly understand them, absorbing the good and rejecting the bad. It is not proper to be afraid and to refuse to have anything to do with them, or to completely accept or reject them without careful analysis.

3. Scientists and technicians should be encouraged to speak out freely on practical scientific

and economic issues during feasibility studies of major projects. Those who challenge the views of leaders should not be accused of "failing to keep in step with the Party."

4. Comparative studies of Chinese and foreign scientific and management policies are useful and beneficial when exploring possible reform measures. It is not correct to refuse to study and make use of the experiences of foreign countries simply because their social systems are different from China's.

5. There should be free academic discussion in the natural sciences. Scientists should be permitted to choose some of their own research topics, and free movement of scientific personnel should be effected on a trial basis to enable scientists to freely form their own research teams. This approach should not be labelled "bourgeois liberalism."

6. Differences of opinion, partial successes and even failures are inevitable in the course of scientific experimentation. These problems should be solved through criticism and self-criticism. The drive against ideological contamination should not be extended to the natural science and technology.

Refugees Enjoy A Stable Life

About 100,000 refugees from Indochina are now leading a happy and stable life in China.

Most of them have settled on 40 state-owned farms and tree nurseries in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The Chinese Government has provided them with 4,700 hectares of farm and woodland, and various vehicles and farm machinery. The government also allocated one million square metres of land for housing

sites. Seventeen hospitals, 54 schools and various dining-rooms, nurseries and other facilities have already been completed.

The Beihai fishing co-operative near the Beibu Gulf, set up by the Chinese Government and the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees, houses 10,000 refugees in 54 apartment buildings. Each flat has two to four bedrooms, a living-room, a kitchen and a lavatory, with running water and electricity.

The co-operative has 700 fishing boats and 20 motor boats. In 1982, its average per-capita income was 1,163 yuan (about US\$598), five times as much as the Chinese peasant's average income. Last year, it recorded the highest catch and income since the co-operative was set up.

Hoang Guoc Hung, a former member of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and now vice-director of the co-operative's management office, earned 6,000 yuan in 1982 among the three working hands in his family. This is only a mid-level wage at Beihai. They have four bedrooms and a living-room plus a TV set, a sewing machine, an electric fan and a suite of furniture—all bought after their arrival in China.

Hoang said that when the refugees first came to Beihai, quite a few were prepared to move on to Xianggang (Hongkong) or elsewhere to earn a living. But now they have decided to stay where they are.

All the members of the Beihai fishing co-operative enjoy free medical care and primary school education for their children. In the past five years 10,800 babies have been born there.

In 1983, the co-operative treated two groups of refugees to a tour of Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou and other places.

Some refugees with specialized knowledge have been appointed

associate professors, engineers, accountants and doctors-in-charge. Some even assume leading posts in local governments, people's organizations and enterprises.

A provincial official pointed out that the improvement in the refugees' living conditions is greatly attributable to the efforts made by the Chinese Government. But due to limited financial and material resources, some problems still remain to be resolved. These include lack of communications facilities, building materials, medicines and machinery for building ports.

Education News

China welcomed 5,300 foreign students last year, and sent 3,000 people to study abroad.

Since 1978, the Chinese Government has paid for 18,500 students to study in 54 countries, and 7,000 of them have returned upon graduation.

China's students studying abroad specialize mainly in sciences and technology, particularly those which are lacking or not sufficiently developed in China. Others major in politics, economics, law, education and languages.

There are also 7,000 Chinese students who are studying abroad at their own expense.

Foreign students have come from more than 100 countries and regions all over the world. In 1983, 2,000 were studying liberal arts, science, engineering, medicine, agriculture, music and fine arts for two to five years, at 50 universities and colleges in 15 cities in China. Another 3,500 students and young teachers came from more than 20 countries, including Japan, France, Britain and the United States, for short-term courses of one to three months in the Chinese language, architecture and history.

Maghreb Countries

Strengthen Unity and Co-operation

by XIN SHUFAN and
WU WENBIN

IN the past year, the African Arab Maghreb countries have made great efforts to promote unity and co-operation. A new face has appeared in northwest African politics.

Not long ago, Mauritania joined in the fraternity and concord treaty concluded by Algeria and Tunisia. Libyan leader Muammar Al-Gaddafi also asked to join this treaty. Mauritania and Algeria have also signed a border treaty.

Maghreb, originally an Arabic word meaning "far west," refers to the countries in northwest Africa, including Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. The Grand Maghreb they are planning to set up will consist of five nations, including Mauritania and Libya.

Developing Bilateral Relations

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid paid an official visit to Tunisia last March. In a joint communiqué Algeria and Tunisia promised to act jointly to create peace, security and the appropriate atmosphere for establishing a Grand Maghreb, based on unity and mutual respect. Chadli's visit also finally settled the 20-year-old boundary questions between the two countries.

In their fraternity and concord treaty, the two countries declared that neither side will use armed force to settle their disputes and that any Maghreb country agree-

ing to the points of the treaty will be able to join in signing.

They also expressed satisfaction over the development of relations between their two countries, and promised to continue various contacts to strengthen their co-operation and co-ordination.

Last June, Libyan leader Gaddafi visited Morocco for the first time since 1970. The two sides expressed their desire to settle any differences which might damage their relationship, and avoid any action which may cause tension in Maghreb region. They also pledged to keep the region free from hegemonists' influence. The improved relations between the two countries is an important step in the formation of a Grand Maghreb because their relationship was once marred by the Western Sahara dispute.

Tunisia and Libya have also somewhat improved their relations in the past year. Gaddafi visited Tunisia twice in 1983. The two countries said they hoped to strengthen co-operation and help supply each other's needs. A senior committee has been set to draw up a schedule for improving bilateral relations.

The most important development came when Algerian President Chadli and King Hassan II of Morocco, the leaders of two major Maghreb nations, met last February to discuss normalizing relations between their countries.

This was the first meeting since relations were severed in 1976 over the Western Sahara dispute. The two leaders tried to settle their differences over that issue, and held discussions concerning bilateral relations.

Grand Maghreb Idea

In 1983, the Grand Maghreb countries also made great efforts to develop multilateral relations. Delegates from the three ruling parties in Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria attended the second Tangier Conference last April in Morocco, marking the 25th anniversary of the Arab Maghreb Congress. The second Tangier Charter adopted at the conference declared that the three countries will be loyal to the spirit of the first Tangier Charter, which was adopted by the three countries in 1958. The new Charter again proposed establishing a politically, economically and socially unified Arab Maghreb.

The second Tangier Conference, which has been seen as an important step in integrating the Maghreb countries, was followed by the meeting of the heads of Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania last May. The meeting explored, among other things, the possibility to hold a summit of the five Maghreb nations to promote the establishment of a Grand Maghreb.

The establishment of the Grand Maghreb will be of great significance in promoting the unity throughout the Arab world, and it will certainly influence Africa, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic areas. The prospect is bright, though twists and turns still exist on the road to setting up a unified and co-operative Grand Maghreb.

Nigeria

Military Government Steps In

by REN YAN

AFTER the military coup in Nigeria on Dec. 31, a new executive body, the 19-member Supreme Military Council, was sworn in on Jan. 3. Major General Mohammed Buhari is the Chairman of the Council, Head of the Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. The National Council of State was also approved on the same day.

The situation in Lagos and other places in Nigeria has been restored to normal. A dusk to dawn curfew has been lifted, although sea ports and land borders remain closed.

Radio Nigeria has announced that the army staged the coup because of the former Shagari government's corruption and lack of discipline, and the bad economic situation in the country.

In a statement from the Federal

Military Government on Jan. 1, Buhari said that the government would continue to make Africa the centrepiece of its foreign policy and maintain its relations with other countries and with the international organizations and institutions such as the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, the Economic Community of the West African States and the Commonwealth of Nations. He added that it will honour and respect all treaty obligations entered into by the previous government.

The new head of state noted that his government would overturn the 1979 Constitution and punish the corrupt officials.

China and Nigeria are friendly countries, both belonging to the third world. The Chinese people hope and believe that the friendly and co-operative relations between China and Nigeria will, as always, be strengthened.

Last April, Paris announced the expulsion of 47 Soviet spies. In May, the National Assembly adopted a military programme which points out for the first time that the threat to France comes from the Soviet Union. Although several ministers have visited Moscow in the past year and there was some development in trade between the two countries, there is nothing to indicate the regular French-Soviet summit meetings, initiated by the late President de Gaulle and stopped by Mitterrand after he became President in 1981, will be renewed.

France found itself becoming more and more deeply involved in the Middle East in 1983. It failed to keep out of the two major conflicts in this area—the Iran-Iraq war and the fighting in Lebanon. Last October, it supplied Iraq with five Super-Etendard fighter planes. In Lebanon, it not only participates in both the UN force and the multinational peace-keeping force, but also has increased its naval presence in the East Mediterranean, including aircraft carriers. There are more than 6,000 French troops stationed in Middle East, the most since the Suez Crisis in 1956.

France closely links the strategic position of the Middle East and its oil supply with the security of Western Europe, and longs for the influence it once had in the region. It has been trying to unite a majority of Arab nations to bring about peace negotiations, so as to avoid a settlement of the Middle East problem made by either superpower.

Therefore, it favoured the United Nations stepping in to solve the Middle East problem, and denounced the two superpowers for separately supporting Syria or Israel in dividing Lebanon.

The Chad issue serves as a mirror of France's African policy. France sent troops to Chad when

France

Diplomacy in a Troubled World

By YANG QI

VIGOROUSLY supporting the deployment of US Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe, expelling 47 Soviet diplomats, reinforcing military forces in Lebanon, and dispatching troops to Chad were all significant points in French foreign policy during the past year.

France distinguished itself among West European countries by taking a clear stand on Euro-missiles. The Socialist government believes that only US mis-

siles can restore the balance of power in Europe which the Soviet Union upset by continuing to deploy SS-20 missiles.

During the Euromissile talks in Geneva, the Soviet Union proposed that French and British nuclear weapons be included in the West's total nuclear arsenal. France protested. This refusal was evidence of France's distrust of the United States. To France, accepting the Soviet proposal would mean giving up independent control of its own self-defence.

the anti-government forces in the country pushed southward, with the support of Libyan troops. There are now 3,000 French troops stationed in Chad or neighbouring countries, and the intervention there is the largest French military action in Africa since the end of the Algerian War.

Some African allies of France were concerned that France might change its African policy when the Socialists came to power. The intervention in Chad was aimed, among other things, at removing the doubts of these

countries. President Mitterrand said that France's African policy is consistent. Although the ways of implementing that policy may vary, the goal of safeguarding the interests of France and maintaining its role in Africa remains the same, he said.

France's action in Africa was also aimed at countering the influence of the two superpowers there. Because the continent is the center of France's third world policy, naturally it refuses to see Africa turned into a field for US-Soviet rivalry.

US-USSR

Another "Year of Euromissiles"?

by SHAO TONG

THE arrival of the first US missiles in Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy has left the Soviet Union the undeniable loser in its fight against the deployment. And East-West relations hit a new low as the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Talks (INF), the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) and the Central Europe troops reduction talks came to an abrupt end before the close of last year.

The West European countries, however, cling to the hope that the United States and the Soviet Union will somehow resume their dialogue and eventually maintain a balance of nuclear power at the lowest possible level. This will avoid a severe strain on East-West relations, any harm to their barely visible economic recovery, and a break in their trade and economic co-operation.

Following the Soviet walkout from the Geneva talks, many West European countries at NATO's winter ministerial council meeting in Brussels asked Washington to

relieve East-West tension and renew its dialogue with Moscow. The United States accepted some of its allies' suggestions, and agreed that Western Europe should continue to develop "normal and mutually beneficial" trade and other economic relations with the Soviet Union.

Washington has taken a high tone stance, proclaiming its readiness to reopen negotiations after the Soviet walkout in Geneva.

US Secretary of State George Shultz announced that he will attend the European disarmament conference in Stockholm this month, and planned to meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko there. Not long ago US President Ronald Reagan said he is planning to hold a summit meeting with Soviet leader Yuri Andropov sometime this year.

On the other hand, the United States is racing against time to deploy its Pershing II and cruise missiles. Well-informed sources in Brussels predict that there will be changes in the original US

deployment plan, not by lots, but one by one.

There are several reasons for this American position. First, the US wants to be sure that when negotiations with the Soviet Union are resumed, it can bargain from a position of strength.

Second, though the governments of most West European countries support the deployment, they are under heavy pressure from the powerful peace movements, and are meeting opposition in their own parliaments. The fall of one or more of these governments may well bring the opposition to power, and the US deployment plan could come to a premature end.

Third, it must maintain unity with its West European allies by keeping them happy. Western Europe's basic line of action has always been "defence plus detente," which means confrontation as well as dialogue.

It is significant that in the communique released at the end of the NATO meeting, the word "detente" appears—a word now half-forgotten, and frowned upon in Washington.

The Reagan administration, known for its hard line in dealing with the Soviet Union, actually agreed to the mention of detente in the NATO communique. This can only be explained as a show of America's good faith to ease the tension and promote unity with its West European allies, so as to neutralize the Soviet efforts to estrange them.

It is far from certain that the Soviet Union will resume the three suspended or broken-off talks with the United States during 1984. However, one may safely predict that this year will see a more heated war of words between the two superpowers, as more and more of their nuclear killers raise their heads in Europe.

Zhao's Speech at the White House

January 10, 1984

AT the beginning of the New Year, I have brought the American people the cordial greetings and good wishes of the one billion Chinese people. I would like to thank President Reagan for his kind invitation which has offered me this opportunity to visit your great country.

As a friendly envoy of the Chinese people, I have come to visit your country for the purpose of seeking increased mutual understanding, stabilizing the relations between our two countries, enhancing Sino-US friendship and helping to preserve world peace. I believe this is not only the common aspiration of the Chinese and American peoples, but also the expectation of the people of the world.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the long sail to China by the American merchant ship *Empress of China*. That historic voyage started contacts between China and the United States. The history of Sino-US relations over the past two centuries has witnessed both periods of friendly coexistence and exchanges and of confrontation and conflict. However, the seeds of friendship have always existed among the Chinese and American peoples. This traditional friendship between our two peoples and the political foresight of the leaders of the two countries helped to put an end to a long period of estrangement and confrontation between our two countries and to bring about the normalization of our relations.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations, the relations

between China and the United States have in the aggregate made considerable progress. The friendly exchanges between our two peoples have greatly increased and their mutual understanding further deepened. Our exchanges and co-operation in the political, economic, cultural, scientific and technological and other fields

So long as both China and the United States strictly abide by the principles as confirmed by both sides in the joint communiques, perform the obligations each undertook, it is possible for Sino-US relations to leave behind jolts and uncertainties and embark on a smooth path.

have markedly expanded. But it should be conceded that the growth of the Sino-US relations is far below the level it should have attained. There have been ups and downs in the course of development, and there still exist difficulties and obstacles.

China has always attached importance to its relations with the United States and hopes to see their growth. US government leaders have also indicated on more than one occasion that they value Sino-US relations and wish to see their development on a durable and stable basis. I believe there is such a possibility. In

order to turn the possibility into reality, it is necessary for both sides to show mutual respect, and for each other to take into account the national interests of the other side as well as its own country in handling the problems before them. So long as both China and the United States strictly abide by the principles as confirmed by both sides in the joint communiques, perform the obligations each undertook, it is possible for Sino-US relations to leave behind jolts and uncertainties and embark on a smooth path.

Five years ago, Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said at this podium that "great possibilities lie ahead for developing amicable co-operation between China and the United States." This remains our faith. Sino-US relations are now at an important juncture. As Americans would say, they are faced with big challenges and great opportunities as well. We should bravely accept the challenges and make full use of the opportunities.

The world situation is at present more turbulent. The people of all countries are deeply worried about the future of the world. The United States and China, both being big countries, should be aware of their heavy responsibility for the maintenance of world peace. In the next few days, I shall hold talks with President Reagan and other leaders of your government and exchange views with them on ways to develop Sino-US relations and on international issues of common interest. We never construe the significance of Sino-US relations as being limited to ordinary bilateral relations, but regard them as an important

affair affecting the overall world situation. We stand for peace not only because China needs peace, friendship and economic development, but also because people of all countries want peace, friendship and development. The amicable coexistence of China and the United States is a major factor for maintaining world peace and stability. As long as the peoples of the world take their destiny

into their own hands, it will be possible to maintain world peace and prevent a new world war.

At this solemn podium, I feel that hundreds of millions of people are watching us, they expect us to make contributions to the development of Sino-US relations and to the cause of maintaining world peace. We should not disappoint them

As I said just now, this year is the bicentenary of the beginning of contacts between China and the United States. This is an occasion for reviewing the past and looking ahead to the future. I believe that with the study of history we will learn to live together better in amity. I wish happiness to the American people and steady and sustained development of the Sino-US relations. □

Canadians Welcome Premier Zhao's Visit

The following is our special correspondent Wang Youfen's telephone interview with William Coleman, Executive Director of the Canada-China Trade Council on the eve of Premier Zhao's official visit to Canada. — Ed.

WILLIAM COLEMAN, Executive Director of the Canada-China Trade Council, says that his organization has received numerous inquiries about Premier Zhao's visit from businessmen "who are interested in what is happening and desirous of being involved."

In a telephone interview from his headquarters in Toronto, Mr. Coleman said that the relations between the two countries are seen by both the Canadian business community and the general public as "very good," and people expect that Zhao's visit will promote Sino-Canadian relations in all fields.

According to Coleman, two-way trade has increased at an annual average rate of 25 per cent since 1978. In 1982, total volume of trade reached \$1.4 billion (Canadian). In 1983, up to October, exports from Canada to China increased by 29 per cent, while Chi-

nese exports to Canada increased 17 per cent compared with the same period in the previous year.



The Canada-China Trade Council has received numerous inquiries about Premier Zhao's visit from businessmen "who are interested in what is happening and desirous of being involved."

Coleman expects continued expansion this year, especially because Canadian high-tech com-

panies are becoming more and more involved in doing business with China.

He said that there has been a dialogue between Canadian companies and their Chinese counterparts for some time on high-tech transfers and various forms of industrial co-operation, including joint ventures, in energy development, telecommunications, satellite transmission, aviation, broadcasting, and other fields. He predicted that "something may transpire in Ottawa regarding them" during the Chinese Premier's visit.

In discussing the competitive power of Canadian equipment and technology, he said that although they do not offer the best value in all areas, they are competitive in certain fields such as forestry, telecommunications, mining, trucks, oil exploration services and hydroelectric generation. He added that Canada has a unique nuclear technology which can also be very competitive.

When asked about the imbalance in Sino-Canadian trade, he said there has been an imbalance of approximately 6 to 1 in Canada's favour in the past few years.

Despite some temporary difficulties, he said, he believed that a sustained and well-prepared programme of market promotion and development will bring about a dramatic increase in the export of Chinese consumer items to Canada. He said Chinese trading corporations have shown a considerable sensitivity to Canadian styles and packaging requirements, and

what is now needed desperately is on-site advertising.

Coleman attached great importance to the development co-operation agreement signed between the two countries last October when Foreign Minister Wu was visiting Canada. He said that under this agreement, the Canadian International Development Agency will co-operate with China's

Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade to undertake a number of programmes in agriculture, forestry, energy and human resource management. And he believes that they will generate secondary and tertiary programmes involving both governmental and non-governmental agencies. "It will be a stimulant to an even broader range of activity," Mr. Coleman concluded. □

Evolution of China's Population Policy

Qian Xinzong, former Minister responsible for the State Family Planning Commission and now Adviser to the Ministry of Public Health, reviews the development of China's population and the evolution of its population policy since 1949. — Ed.

by QIAN XINZHONG

PRIOR to the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, the Chinese population, despite a high birth rate, was characterized by a low rate of natural growth because of a concurrent high mortality rate. In 1936, for example, the birth rate ran as high as 38 people per thousand. But the mortality rate was 28 per thousand, leaving a natural growth rate of only about 10 per thousand. During the 109 years between 1840 and 1949, China's population grew from 410 million to 540 million, averaging a net annual increase of 1.19 million and a natural growth rate of 2.5 per thousand a year.

The rapid social and economic development achieved after the birth of New China has brought about major demographic changes. Population growth before the

1970s was marked by these features

—The mortality rate dropped dramatically—from more than 20 per thousand before liberation to between 10 and 18 per thousand in the 1950s, down to about 7 per thousand in the early 1970s. This can be attributed to the developing socialist construction and to rapid improvements in living standards and public health services. It is also tied closely to the gradual elimination of epidemic diseases, which had threatened life and health. The rate of infant mortality shrank from about 200 per thousand before liberation, to 70.9 per thousand in 1957, to between 11 and 13 per thousand in the cities and about 30 per thousand in the countryside during the 1970s.

—The birth rate from 1949-70 was persistently high, reaching as much as over 33 per thousand in most years.

—The sharp decline in the mortality rate, together with the high birth rate, resulted in a high natural growth rate. In most post-liberation years before 1973, the annual rate of natural growth was more than 20 per thousand. From 1966-71 it soared to an average 26 per thousand—the 120 million

population growth during the period nearly equalling the total from 1840-1949.

Four Periods

Guided by the population theory of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, China has formulated its population policy in light of its actual conditions and the socialist law of population. Human beings, as both consumers and producers, have both natural and social attributes. Humanity differs from other animals through labour; it is on the basis of labour that mankind organizes societies and serves as the mainstay of these societies. The existence and the development of the population are determined by the mode of social production, circumscribed by society's political, military, educational and marriage systems, and influenced by natural conditions and mankind's own physiological factors. The population's existence and growth also react on social life, natural conditions and human physiological factors.

The progress of society in general, and of culture and science in particular, has enabled mankind to use scientific methods to keep its population down to size, raise the quality of its population, and

maintain a balance between population growth and social and economic development.

China's population policy stems from, and is designed to serve, its practice in controlling the population growth. The development of this policy since the founding of the People's Republic falls roughly into four periods:

During the first period, from 1949-52 (that is, the period of national economic restoration), the Chinese population was marked by unplanned growth, a substantial drop in the mortality rate, and a rise in the rate of natural growth from 16 per thousand in 1949 to 20 per thousand in 1952. This rapid growth was seen at the time as being within the socialist law of population and an indication of a prosperous society and improved standards of living. Accordingly China's population policy tightly restricted abortion and prohibited sterilization.

The contradiction between the unplanned, over-rapid population growth and the planned development of the national economy soon caught the attention of the Chinese leaders and some scholars. Changes were therefore made to the population policy. In August 1953, the Government Administration Council approved the Methods for Birth Control and Abortion drafted and revised by the Ministry of Public Health and instructed the ministry to help people practise birth control.

In 1956, in the Proposals on the Second Five-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy, Premier Zhou Enlai explained: "To protect women and children and to better bring up the younger generation so as to ensure the health of the people and the prosperity of the nation, we agree to put child births under appropriate control." This idea was shared by a number of scholars at the time, notably the celebrated econo-

mist Ma Yinchu. But prompt measures were not taken because of the prevailing tendency to overlook how population growth affects the economic and social development.

During the second period, in the early 1960s, the Chinese Government once again called for controlled population growth. In a directive issued in 1962, the Party Central Committee and the State Council said: "To advocate birth control in cities and densely populated rural areas so that the population's natural growth rate can be properly controlled and the population, currently expanding in an unplanned manner, can begin to grow in a planned manner—this is an established policy for China's socialist construction."

Acting on this policy, China started experimental family planning in the cities and worked out plans to study, produce and supply contraceptives. As a result, the urban birth rate and natural growth rate began to drop in 1964. However, with the advent of the widely damaging "cultural revolution" in 1966, family planning was suspended and population growth outpaced the development of material production.

In the third period, during the early 1970s, Chairman Mao Zedong issued the call that "population must be controlled," which heralded a nationwide drive to bring the population growth within the framework of the state plan.

The basic policy during this period encouraged young people to marry and have children late and encouraged married couples to lengthen the intervals between children and have as few children as possible. An exception was made for the minority nationalities: "Appropriate measures will be taken to facilitate the growth of their population and the development of their production; guidance and help will be rendered to

Wang Chunshou and his wife, peasants in Yunxiao County, Fujian Province, are commended for encouraging their three daughters-in-law to have only one child each, although they all gave birth to baby girls.



those who desire birth control after having too many children."

In the fourth period, since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in 1978, China's population policy has been further developed and the control of population growth has entered a new phase. The Second Session of the Fifth National People's Congress in 1979 set forth the policy of encouraging "each couple to have only one child." General Secretary Hu Yaobang, in his report to the 12th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, pointed out: "Population has always been an extremely important issue in China's economic and social development. Family planning is a basic policy of our state."

The new Constitution, adopted in 1982, says: "The state promotes family planning so that population growth may fit the plans for economic and social development," and "both husband and wife have the duty to practise family planning." And the Marriage Law stipulates that "late marriage and late childbirth should be encouraged." It also forbids marriage between close blood relatives and those with particular hereditary diseases.

Major Tasks

The current population policy is intended to "numerically restrict the population while raising its quality and to keep population growth in pace with social and economic development." It has three highlights: to encourage each couple to have one child, to strictly control second births, and to resolutely forestall third births. Exceptions are made only for families with real difficulties (for example, those with a retarded or disabled child or second marriages in which one partner has not had a child).

This policy is intended to keep the population, which has already exceeded 1,000 million, below

1,200 million by the turn of the century. To attain that goal, the average annual growth rate must be kept below 10.2 million for the 18 years from 1983 to 2000. But this rate will be exceeded even if every couple has only one child, because the young people born during the baby booms of the 1950s and 1960s are now entering child-bearing age at an average rate of 11 million couples a year. If each couple were to have two babies, 22 million babies would have been born every year. That would have added up to nearly 400 million by the year 2000. This,

To encourage each couple to have one child, strictly control second births and resolutely forestall third births — these are the main points of China's population policy, which stems from, and is designed to serve, its practice in controlling the population

plus the number of children born to families given special considerations, would boost China's population to more than 1,300 million.

At present, the rate of couples with two or three children is still high in the rural areas. In 1981, for example, first births made up 46.55 per cent of total births, second births 25.36 per cent, and third and further births 28.09 per cent. In some villages, the rate of second or further births ran as high as 40 per cent. These figures point to the need for advocating one couple, one child.

In 1980, the Party Central Committee issued a public letter calling on all members of the Communist Party and the Communist Youth League, and especially cadres at all levels, to take the lead in adhering to the "one couple, one child" pol-

icy. This policy was formulated to cope with existing conditions — namely, a huge population with a high growth rate which is being sustained by the large number of young people of child-bearing age. If significant changes take place in the population, the policy will be adjusted.

China is a multinational country. Apart from the Hans, there are 55 minority nationalities, differing tremendously in population and economy. Some have relatively advanced cultures and economies and large populations; others are fewer in number and underdeveloped culturally and economically. National autonomous areas are allowed to set their own population policies on the principles of facilitating economic development, strengthening unity between nationalities, and raising the quality of the population.

The theories and methods of China's population policy can be summarized as follows.

First, the size and quality of the population should be commensurate with the production of the means of production and consumer goods.

Second, in our socialist society, materials are produced in a planned way; therefore the population should also grow in the same fashion. Socialist public ownership of the means of production has created the objective conditions for mankind to regulate its own multiplication.

Third, given China's present conditions, controlling population growth will play a positive role in promoting Chinese social and economic development.

Fourth, China follows the principle of combining state guidance with voluntary choice by the individual. The significance of family planning should be made known through widespread publicity so that those concerned can follow it conscientiously. □

Age Distribution of China's Population

The first batch of computer tabulations of a 10 per cent sample survey of the third national census, taken on July 1, 1982, were recently released by the Population Census Office under the State Council. The sample covers 100,379,045 people from all over China's rural villages and urban neighbourhoods (excluding Taiwan,) using random, equidistant and group sampling.

The reliability of this population count meets world standards for actual error and the samples, which are distributed evenly, are quite representative. They will therefore be of great value in understanding the social and economic situation, working out plans and policies and conducting economic research. Accordingly, beginning in this issue "Beijing Review" will cover some of the sample results. — Ed

China's population is now changing from an increasing one to a static one.

Throughout the world, statisticians usually divide the population structure into increasing, static and decreasing types. The standards to judge them are as follows:

	0-14	15-49	50 or older
	(%)	(%)	(%)
Increasing	40	50	10
Static	26.5	50.5	23
Decreasing	20	50	30

In China, 33.6 per cent of the population are 14 years old or younger; 51.3 per cent are 15 to 49; and 15.1 per cent are 50 or older. This shows that China's population is now in a transition, moving from increase to static.

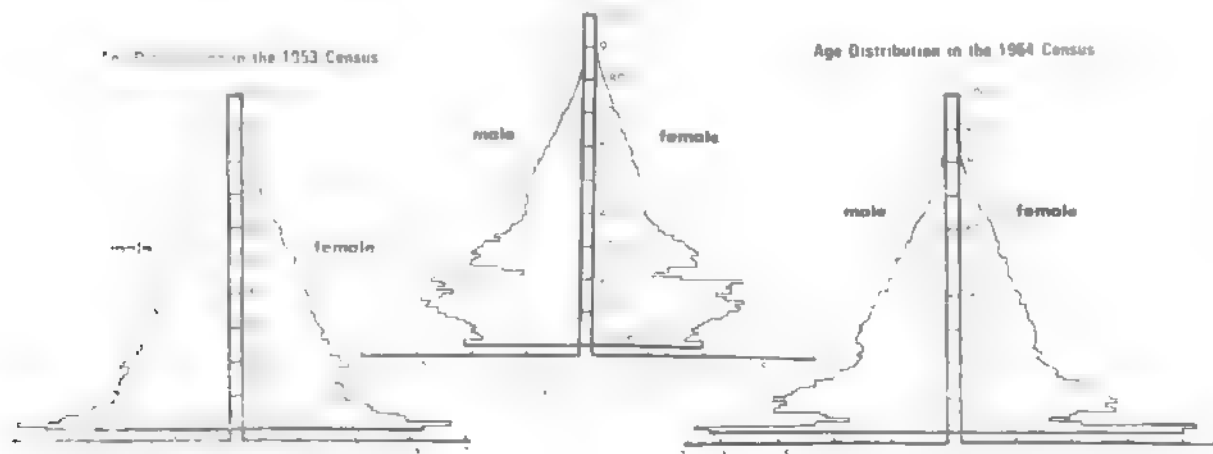
The age distribution in China's three censuses are as follows:

From these three age distribution diagrams, we can see that the proportion of children aged 12

years and younger in the total population in the 1982 census was lower than that in the 1953 and 1964 censuses. This is a result of family planning and population control. The number of women of child-bearing age (15-49) and the proportion of working-age people (16-59 for men and 16-54 for women according to China's existing regulations) went up. This is because people born in the baby boom following the founding of the People's Republic in 1949 have now entered these age brackets (see Table 1).

The median age of China's population increased. The statistics from the 10 per cent sample survey of the third census in 1982 indicated that median age of China's population was 22.91 years, which meant half of the population was below that age. It was 0.17 year older than the median age in the 1953 census, and 2.71 years older than that in

Age Distribution in the 10 Sample Survey of the 1982 Census



the 1964 census. The ratio between old and young (obtained by taking the population aged 14 and younger as 100 and dividing those aged 65 and older) in the 1982 census was 14.61 per cent, 2.45 per cent higher than in the 1953 census and 5.85 per cent higher than in the 1964 census. However, the age distribution of the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions differ. In the 1982 census, the median age and the ratio between the old and young in Shanghai, Beijing and Tianjin were the highest, and those in Ningxia and Qinghai were the lowest (see Table II).

From the age distribution of the three censuses, we can see that the proportion of children in the total population went down, while that of old people went up. In the 1982 census, 33.6 per cent of the population was 14 years or younger. In the 1953 census it was 36.3 per cent, and in the 1964 census, it was 40.7 per cent. The proportion of people aged 15 to 64 went up to 61.5 per cent in the 1982 census, from 59.3 per cent in the 1953 census and 55.7

per cent in the 1964 census. The proportion of people aged 65 and older was 4.4 per cent in the 1953 census, and 3.6 per cent in the 1964 census. In the 1982 census, it went up to 4.9 per cent. The increase in the proportion of old people indicates that we must appropriately increase services and facilities for older people.

With the increase in the proportion of young and middle-aged people, the average number of old people and children they support decreased. The dependency coefficient is determined by adding together the number of people

aged 14 and younger and the number of people aged 65 and older, and then dividing it by the number of people between ages 15 and 64. This dependency coefficient went down to 62.6 per cent in China in 1982, from 68.6 per cent in 1953 and 79.4 per cent in 1964. That means every one hundred people aged 15 to 64 supported 61.2 children and 7.4 people aged 65 and older in 1953; 73 children and 6.4 people aged 65 and older in 1964; and 54.6 children and 8 people aged 65 and older in 1982.

Table II

Median Age and Old-Young Ratio in Various Provinces, Municipalities and Autonomous Regions

Statistics from the 10% Sample Survey

	Median Age	Percentage Of Old People (65 and older)	Percentage Of Young People (14 and younger)	Old-Young Ratio (%)
National				
Average	22.91	4.91	33.60	14.61
1 Shanghai	29.28	7.37	18.10	40.5
2 Beijing	27.19	5.64	22.12	25.49
3 Tianjin	26.60	5.54	24.24	22.64
4 Jiangsu	25.54	5.54	28.09	19.10
5 Hebei	24.72	5.66	30.78	18.39
6 Liaoning	24.56	4.80	28.8	16.69
8 Shandong	24.56	5.63	31.02	18.16
9 Sichuan	23.41	4.67	34.42	17.58
10 Hubei	23.02	4.99	32.76	15.23
11 Shanxi	22.99	4.99	33.31	14.67
12 Shaanxi	22.89	4.58	31.09	13.83
13 Guangdong	22.54	5.44	31.87	16.08
14 Hunan	22.48	4.97	33.92	14.66
15 Jilin	22.33	3.97	33.18	11.96
16 Henan	22.27	5.23	34.92	14.97
17 Heilongjiang	21.58	3.42	34.83	9.83
18 Tibet	21.45	4.64	36.98	12.54
19 Inner Mongolia	21.19	3.61	35.41	10.19
20 Fujian	20.68	4.34	36.53	11.89
21 Anhui	20.18	4.08	36.15	11.30
22 Gansu	20.13	3.48	36.36	9.87
23 Guangxi	20.01	5.11	37.30	13.68
24 Jiangxi	19.67	4.51	38.90	11.60
25 Xinjiang	19.48	3.73	39.72	9.39
26 Yunnan	19.39	4.51	39.17	11.52
27 Guizhou	18.76	4.68	40.88	11.45
28 Qinghai	18.42	2.71	40.78	6.64
29 Ningxia	18.32	3.25	41.44	7.84

Table I

Basic Age Distribution in the Three Censuses

	1953	1964	10% Sample Survey of 1982
Total	100	100	100
0 year	3.35	4.13	2.07
1-6 years	17.27	15.50	11.33
7-12 years	12.02	16.57	14.94
Women at child-bearing age (15-49)	23.46	21.98	24.75
People at working age (15-64)	52.84	49.51	54.86
Of them			
Men (16-64)	28.09	26.54	29.29
Women (16-64)	24.75	22.97	25.57
Men over 64 and women over 65	9.11	7.84	9.27

Note: The population at working age was calculated according to China's existing regulations.

Age Distribution of the Population (Statistics From the 10% Sample Survey Only)

Age Group	Number of People Surveyed			Sex Ratio (Female (100))
	Total	Male	Female	
0-4 years	9,471,664	4,899,234	4,572,430	107.15
0	2,081,008	1,078,212	1,002,796	107.52
1	1,737,963	901,728	836,235	107.83
2	1,827,423	946,288	881,135	107.39
3	1,962,366	1,013,128	949,238	106.73
4	1,862,904	959,878	903,026	106.30
5-9 years	11,073,163	5,704,070	5,369,093	106.24
5	1,942,134	1,001,344	940,790	106.44
6	2,041,599	1,052,112	989,487	106.33
7	2,177,532	1,122,108	1,055,424	106.32
8	2,403,068	1,236,852	1,166,216	106.06
9	2,508,830	1,291,654	1,217,176	106.12
10-14 years	13,180,221	6,786,152	6,394,069	106.13
10	2,521,688	1,299,475	1,222,213	106.32
11	2,732,772	1,408,606	1,324,166	106.38
12	2,649,551	1,363,961	1,285,590	106.10
13	2,823,915	1,451,610	1,372,305	105.78
14	2,452,295	1,262,500	1,189,795	106.11
15-19 years	12,531,748	6,374,799	6,156,949	103.55
15	2,273,697	1,169,747	1,103,950	105.96
16	2,443,144	1,251,567	1,191,577	105.04
17	2,510,791	1,271,000	1,239,791	102.54
18	2,737,743	1,365,469	1,372,274	99.49
20-24 years	7,431,211	3,785,529	3,645,682	103.84
20	1,559,714	768,979	790,735	97.25
21	1,067,672	531,294	536,378	99.05
22	1,430,197	732,610	697,587	105.02
23	1,429,025	739,773	689,252	107.33
24	1,944,603	1,012,873	931,730	108.71
25-29 years	9,259,102	4,778,144	4,480,958	106.63
25	1,888,994	979,221	909,773	107.63
26	1,792,173	923,286	868,887	106.26
27	1,967,326	1,017,366	949,960	107.10
28	1,861,734	959,337	902,397	106.31
29	2,748,835	1,398,934	1,349,901	103.7
30-34 years	7,295,777	3,790,643	3,505,134	108.15
30	1,735,636	890,889	844,747	105.41
31	1,463,079	754,056	708,983	106.36
32	1,527,697	800,609	727,088	110.1
33	1,315,915	688,496	627,419	109
34	1,253,430	656,593	596,837	110.6
35-39 years	5,420,337	2,854,598	2,565,739	111.74
35	1,071,071	550,877	520,194	110.77
36	1,129,085	590,147	538,938	109.44
37	1,074,095	542,141	531,954	112.49
38	969,211	515,417	453,794	113.55
40-44 years	4,838,103	2,579,236	2,258,867	114
40	1,004,885	532,879	472,006	111
41	909,144	533,317	465,827	114.49
42	936,618	498,708	437,910	114
43	935,609	500,709	434,900	115
44	958,787	514,123	444,664	115.7
45-49 years	4,736,400	2,504,699	2,231,701	112.25
45	959,159	510,468	448,691	113.77
46	965,291	510,503	454,788	112.25

47	979,109	481,905	497,204	114.45
48	945,489	469,544	475,945	113.62
49	936,282	466,246	470,036	112
50-54 years	4,085,078	2,156,099	1,928,979	111
50	857,062	452,931	404,131	112.08
51	815,137	434,214	380,923	113.99
52	844,656	446,737	397,919	112.27
53	778,231	407,695	370,536	108.03
54	789,992	414,522	375,470	110.40
55-59 years	3,390,931	1,749,971	1,640,960	106.64
55	708,238	370,476	337,762	109.69
56	691,710	359,297	332,413	108.09
57	705,680	364,349	341,331	106.74
58	685,555	347,070	338,485	102.6
59	605,445	308,198	297,247	103.68
60-64 years	2,738,253	1,371,463	1,366,790	100.34
60	616,102	312,219	303,883	102.74
61	576,321	290,809	285,512	101.86
62	568,209	285,775	282,434	101.18
63	497,357	245,940	251,417	97.82
64	480,264	236,720	243,544	97.20
65-69 years	2,126,713	1,017,500	1,109,213	91.73
65	481,345	232,820	248,525	93.68
66	448,439	215,888	232,551	92.83
67	415,179	199,115	216,064	92.16
68	424,515	201,868	222,647	90.67
69	357,235	167,809	189,426	88.59
70-74 years	1,434,895	643,905	790,990	81.40
70	325,281	151,013	174,268	86.66
71	306,973	140,608	166,365	84.57
72	290,919	130,382	160,537	81.22
73	275,491	120,060	155,431	77.34
74	236,331	101,847	134,484	75.73
75-79 years	860,854	349,763	511,091	68.8
75	175,555	67,022	108,533	62.8
76	198,981	81,662	117,319	69.61
77	169,080	68,728	100,352	68.49
78	150,508	59,850	90,658	65.80
79	131,027	50,601	80,426	62.9
80-84 years	370,656	134,967	235,689	57.21
80	111,792	42,355	69,437	60.7
81	91,757	33,839	57,918	58.43
82	69,693	25,030	44,663	56.44
83	52,502	18,430	34,072	54.09
84	44,912	15,315	29,597	51.75
85 years and older	134,439	41,405	93,034	44.51



Viewpoints on a New World Economic Order

The North-South relationship, between the developed countries and the developing countries, is inequitable. The solution is a radical and comprehensive reordering of the international economic system.

by ZHANG SHIE

THE third world countries have made some headway in their struggle to set up a new international economic order. The first UN Conference on Trade and Development, which met in 1964, initiated the debate over the North-South economic relationship. The conference revealed that the third world countries found the existing international system, centred on the Bretton Woods agreement, unacceptable. Since then, international conferences, especially conferences attended by the developing countries, have regularly brought up various ideas and demands that all add up to a call for a new international economic order.

The term "new international economic order" first appeared in the economic declaration of the non-aligned countries' summit conference in Algeria in September 1973. The following year, with the disintegration of the Bretton Woods system, the increased unity among the third world countries and the victory of oil-exporting countries in their struggle, the UN General Assembly eventually adopted the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action. Thus, after years of struggle, some of the essential aspirations and demands of the third world countries had won international recognition. This was a turning point in the struggle to reform the old order.

The third world's basic demands fell into three general areas

(1) The developing countries seek a change in the pattern of production, consumption and trade in the world economy; a change in the old international division of labour between developed and developing countries (which is based on an unequal footing); and the establishment of a fair and reasonable international division of labour.

(2) They want to exercise effective control over the exploitation of their natural resources; and to restrict and supervise the activities of transnational corporations in accordance with the principle of the rights of a sovereign state.

(3) They seek both a change in their status (they currently have no rights in international affairs) and the necessary reforms to existing structures and regulations in certain international organizations so as to allow them to take part fully and effectively in deciding policy regarding international affairs.

At first, these demands were not taken seriously by the industrialized countries, which dismissed them as "rhetoric." Later the European countries showed a readiness to talk, and by September 1975 even US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, speaking at a special session of the Seventh UN General Assembly, was forced under the circumstances to declare that the United States would like to enter into negotiations with the third world.

In the subsequent years, however, such talk has no longer been heard. In the late 1970s, the industrialized countries, thinking that the energy "crisis" had eased and that the flowback of petrodollars was under control, had no desire to respond positively to third world demands. And in the 1980s, with the drastic deterioration in the world economy, the leading industrialized nations have taken an obstinate stand on the North-South question, deadlocking negotiations.

Because of the changes in the world economic situation, opinions about a programme for a new international economic order are varied.

Some people believe that it is no longer realistic to divide the world into North and South, since, after decades of development, the world economy has become multipolar. The call for a new international economic order, they say, is outdated.

Another group misunderstands the basic demands of the third world. They think a new international economic order would mean a redistribution of resources or the establishment of a system of global welfare, and see this as unsuitable in the present international situation.

Others cannot see the relationship between the long-term goal of a new international economic order and urgent short-term problems. They maintain that the North and South should have a dialogue on the immediate urgent

problems on a realistic basis. The programme brought forward in the early 1970s, as they see it, no longer fits in the present situation.

Still others think that a new international economic order as proposed by the third world is utopian and unrealistic. It would not help the third world countries bring about independent economic development, they say.

Faced with these opinions, we must first clarify a number of fundamental questions before we can carry out the struggle to set up a new international economic order.

Out of Date?

Is the call for a new international economic order outdated? Has a fundamental change taken place in the North-South economic relationship since the 1950s?

Judging from such things as population, gross national product (GNP) and trade, it is true that there have been great changes in the economic strength of various countries in recent decades. This is true for both the industrialized and developing countries. Also, there are contradictions among the industrialized countries, and the interests of the developing countries are not entirely identical. This will continue

But as far as economic relations are concerned, the relationship between the North, which exercises control, and the South, which is subject to control, still, beyond doubt exists in the present capitalist world economy. The major change in postwar capitalist production and trade has been the increasingly important role played by transnational corporations. In the past two or three decades, a few transnational corporations have grown into a force controlling many economic branches of the capitalist world. In many countries, the domestic markets

have become so integrated with the world markets that 40 per cent of international trade consists merely of transactions within transnational corporations. These companies, in fact, play the leading role in marketing primary products, in producing and marketing many finished goods and unprocessed minerals, and in the service industries and the capital market. Under this worldwide monopoly of production and marketing, the developing countries find themselves in an unequal position, con-

The call for a change in the existing global economic relationship is not wishful thinking about a utopian redistribution of resources. It is a demand for urgent reform, derived from immediate need.

trolled and exploited economically by external forces. In some developing countries, where the sovereign state is weak and its economic power sagging, industrialized countries are acquiring economic power, which puts them in a position to exercise control. Moreover, the transnational corporations are in a position to undermine local businesses and factories through dumping, boycotts, cutting off supplies of parts, and political influence. Under the circumstances, these developing countries can go on only as producers of raw materials or as sources of cheap labour.

Monetary finance is the heart of an economic system. Here, the crucial question is who controls reserve assets. The industrialized countries, through issuing banknotes and manipulating the Inter-

national Monetary Fund (IMF), have a firm grip over the creation and distribution of international reserve assets. This is particularly so in the case of the United States which has virtually become the central bank of the postwar capitalist world. It may issue US dollars as it likes to make up for deficits in its international payments. The developing countries, on the other hand, are not in a position to make up their international payments deficits with their currency. They must generally borrow whatever long- and short-term funds cannot be raised at home. Moreover, the principal international monetary and financial institutions, such as the IMF and the World Bank, are also controlled by the industrialized countries. More than 60 per cent of the voting rights in those two organizations belong to these countries.

Under the existing international economic structure, therefore, the relationship between the controller and the controlled and the differentiation between North and South are still much in evidence. Nor do the oil-exporting and newly industrialized countries find themselves in a better position. Although the oil-exporting countries have won back the right to decide oil prices, the transnational corporations still control the refining of petroleum. These countries must exchange their natural resources for foreign currencies because their currencies are not reserve assets; even then, most of the foreign currency they earn must be deposited in the industrialized countries.

As for the newly industrialized countries, part of their industry operates directly under the transnational corporations. They rely largely on the industrialized countries for the export of their finished goods and the import of machinery and semi finished products. They are exposed to direct attacks in the form of protectionism, debt,

and high interest rates. Some people hold that they are even more dependent on the industrialized countries than the developing countries in general are.

It is in the fact of this stark reality that the South cries for a reform of the old order and the establishment of a new one. The desire is not outdated—it derives from a dire need. It is a just, reasonable demand.

Utopian Demand?

Although the economy of the capitalist world is still controlled by the developed countries with their economic power, the demand by the third world for a better economic situation is growing louder day by day and its consciousness of fighting for economic independence is stronger than ever. The call for a new international economic order in itself reflects this demand. Both the UN declaration and programme enunciate some of the general principles of international economic relations, such as equal sovereign rights, self-determination and fair play, while enumerating the main demands in various fields. Reform of the old international economic order and the establishment of a new one will help develop the national economies in various countries; these measures are not aimed merely at promoting industrialization for the sake of exports.

Besides, the struggle for this new order is also intended to effect a change in the old international division of labour. The North-South relationship will change continually as the developing countries make efforts to develop their economies and struggle to establish a new order; the unequal international division of labour will, as some people have speculated, remain unchanged with or without a new international economic order. It is a matter of course that a national econ-

omy will develop independently only when conditions at home have ripened. Still, internal readjustment, reform and international struggle must not be neglected. Establishment of a new international economic order is a *sine qua non* for the healthy economic expansion of developing countries, although this in itself is not the only condition.

The third world countries, in fact, have made some achievements and are having an increasingly strong influence on the development of the international situation, thanks to their united struggle and the efforts made to develop their economies in the 1970s. In the past, they had no say in international politics and economic affairs, today they have become an independent, decisive force in the international arena. Economic development in these countries and reforms of existing international economic relations have now been universally accepted as major international issues and as subjects for discussion at international conferences. Most developed countries have had to concede the necessity of North-South dialogues. Also, talks in certain specific areas have made some progress.

Of course, on the other hand, we must note that the achievements made so far are rather insignificant and a far cry from what the third world expects. The establishment of a new international economic order is a long-term goal and it must be looked on as a movement, a historical process. To reach the goal, we must wage a hard struggle in the years to come, we must not mistake temporary setbacks as failures; we must overcome resistance and carry the struggle through to the end.

Nature of Demand

What is the nature of the third world countries' demand? Does

it mean a redistribution of resources and a global welfare system?

Essentially the third world wants three things: their economic rights safeguarded; a change in their status of being controlled and exploited in international economic relations; and an increased say in international economic organizations and a fuller and more effective role in deciding policy regarding international economic affairs. In short, the important thing is to reform or end the existing international economic structure, which favours only the developed countries, and open up opportunities to develop all countries' economies on an equal footing.

True, the third world countries ask for reasonable, not nominal, prices for leases or concessions on their natural resources for the exploitation and utilization of these resources. The export prices for raw materials, primary products, and semi-finished and finished products and the import prices for raw materials, primary and finished products, capital goods, and equipment should be fixed on an equitable basis. All this is merely an attempt to correct the existing inequitable situation, not to redistribute resources.

Regarding the foreign aid provided by international programmes to the least developed countries, it is small and cannot be described as a transfer of resources in quantity. The aid target set by the second UN 10-year strategy on international development equals only 0.7 per cent of the GNP of the developed countries. The leading developed countries have not even reached that level by a long shot. When the third world asks for structural reform, it is not asking for alms and still

less for a 'global welfare system.' Reforms of unreasonable economic relations will promote the economies of developing countries as well as the world economy as a whole. They will help bring about world progress and prosperity, not a "pool of stagnant water." In fact, it is the existing international economic system, controlled by a few developed countries, that has brought stagnation and chaos to the world economy

Long-Term Goal

In the present situation, is it acceptable for the third world to overlook the long-term goal of establishing a new international economic order and seek only to solve immediate, urgent problems? Does the programme for a new international economic order no longer fit in the present circumstances?

To begin with, a new international economic order is still the *sine qua non* for economic development in the third world, just as it was 10 years ago when the idea was first brought forward. The essential demands have not lost their significance. On the contrary, events today reveal even more clearly how the existing international economic order impairs developing countries and how reform is urgently needed.

The long-term goal of reform and the short-term goal of solving immediate, urgent problems should be integrated properly, so as to handle the relationship between the two well. There are many urgent problems in the international economy and in the developing countries that need to be solved, such as debt, deficits in international payments, raw material prices and export barriers for finished goods. Equitable and reasonable solutions to these problems should be sought through full, serious consultations and with the help of relevant international organizations. Underesti-

ating the importance of these problems and a failure to solve them will produce serious after-effects. On the other hand, it is necessary for the developing countries to go on seeking a comprehensive radical reform. Minor revisions to the existing system and treating only the symptoms rather than the disease will never eliminate the root causes of the troubles. Even though such revisions may provide a temporary cure, the danger of recurring, or

The solution to the numerous short-term problems facing the third world can be integrated with the long-term goal of radically reforming the old international order.

even greater, economic difficulties will still be there.

Take, for instance, international finance and the monetary issue. The developing countries not only need to hold serious talks with the developed countries on problems such as rearranging debt; they must also be firm in their demand for reform in essential areas, such as the unfair principle currently governing the creation and distribution of international payment capacity. The long-term goal of a new international economic order and the short-term goal of solving immediate issues through negotiations supplement each other. The developing countries, while seeking to hold comprehensive talks, must also work to promote North-South negotiations in specific areas of concern and try to reach agreements both favourable to themselves and helpful to reforming the existing economic relationship.

Immediate Problems

What about current problems? Is the third world, as some people have suggested, more interested in bringing any kind of order to the current state of international economic confusion than it is in seeking a new international economic order to replace the old? True, people are concerned about the state of confusion. A stable economic order is a must for economic development. But, the developing countries — countries which for centuries have experienced untold suffering from old and new colonialist exploitation and oppression — must strive not only for a stable economic order but a new equitable economic order as well. If it is not equitable — that is, if the developed countries still control it — then the developing countries will remain in an unequal and subordinate position. This is certainly not the goal of developing countries truly engaged in the ongoing struggle.

The historical process of third world countries struggling for economic independence has begun — a struggle that is both arduous and as full of twists and turns as their earlier struggle for political independence. At the moment, both the developing countries' economies and the North-South talks are in a trying situation. The people of the third world must work unswervingly to achieve their just goal, they must not lose heart in the face of setbacks, nor lose their bearing when opinions vary and when criticized falsely. The old international economic order, controlled by a few countries, must by all means undergo reform. The fight put up by the diehards will eventually fail to stem the flood of reform.

— An abridged translation of an article that appeared in "Journal of International Studies," No. 4, 1983



Preparing an audio-visual programme.

Workers' Education at Anshan Company

by **SUN PING**
Our Correspondent

IN recent years, the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, the largest in China, has spent about 10 million yuan annually to educate its 214,500 workers and staff members. Each of them benefits from more educational funds per year than a secondary or primary school student does.

Motivation

Why is this company so generous with its workers' education? The answer goes back to an inspection tour abroad one of its managers took in 1979. Upon his return, the manager compared what he had seen with the situation in his own company. In Japan, 60 per cent of the iron and steel workers and staff members then had a senior middle

school education or above, while in the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, only 3.5 per cent had reached this level; 30 per cent of the personnel of Japan's iron smelting enterprises were engineers and technicians, while in Anshan, only 7 per cent were; in the United States, 95.3 per cent of the country's total work force were skilled workers in the 1970s, while in the Anshan company, only 43.2 per cent of its workers were skilled. At the time, about 30 per cent of the company's young and middle-aged workers had less than a junior middle school education.

The company did set up some spare-time schools for its workers and staff after the founding of the People's Republic in 1949. But, on the whole, education had not received proper attention be-

fore 1976. By then, the company had only four regular schools, the largest with just 500 students. This fell far behind of the needs of modern production. Some furnace leaders could not read the chemical symbols commonly used in steel production, and some electricians with more than 10 years of work experience would still be lost looking at a circuit diagram. The poor technological background of many workers made them incompetent in operation, which led to mishaps, low efficiency, huge consumption and poor technical indices.

The company leadership gradually came to realize that economic growth depends on competent people, and this competence depends on the development of education. In 1979, the company appointed a deputy

manager to take charge of the education of workers and staff and expanded the education and training department, although many other departments had been streamlined.

According to government regulations, each enterprise can draw an educational fund equivalent to 1.5 per cent of its payroll. The Anshan company was entitled to 2.1 million yuan a year, which the leadership considered was not enough. They decided to use part of the company's net profits retained for expanding production and improving workers' welfare. In the last few years, the company has drawn 8 million yuan a year from this part of its profits for education, or 4-5 per cent of the retained profits.

At present, the company's investment in education is the highest of China's enterprises. Yet, the head of the Anshan company's education and training department said it will be further increased to meet the current production needs and serve the company's long-term economic interests.

Development

The company now has 16 schools, 12 of which were set up after the "cultural revolution". There are two colleges, three television colleges, four secondary specialized schools, four secondary technical schools, two cadres' schools and one secondary spare time school of general education and technical skills. There are another 23 general and technical schools or training courses run by different factories and mines under the company. These schools have a combined enrolment of 18,900 students.

More than 1,200 full-time teachers, or 7 per thousand of the company's total workers and staff members, work in these schools.

Of these, 12 are associate professors, 190 are lecturers and 171 are teaching assistants. These schools also share 79 laboratories, 12 computers and one closed-circuit television system.

In addition, the company sends its people to study at universities and colleges at home and abroad, and encourages the workers and staff to study on their own through radio, television or correspondence courses.

In the last three years, 54 per cent of the company's employees have taken various forms of general and technical study, and the majority of its cadres have been trained. During this period, more than 35,800 workers, or 49.7 per cent of the total number of workers who are asked to continue their junior middle school studies, have received qualification certificates for junior middle school education.

In 1982, 743 college graduates and 1,276 secondary specialized or technical school graduates trained by the company rejoined its work force.

Deputy Minister's Old School

The 56-year-old Deputy Minister of Metallurgical Industry, Li Ming, was a student at the company's evening college in the early 1950s, when he worked at the rolling mill. Upon graduation, he was appointed head of the production department, and was later transferred to the post of manager of another large iron and steel complex in Panzhihua, southwest China.

The evening college where Li studied was set up in 1953, the first college run by an enterprise in China. It was known locally as "evening Qinghua" because of its outstanding achievements. (Qinghua University in Beijing is China's most famous school of science and engineering). The college was formally acknowledged by the Ministry of Education in 1955, and was later renamed Angang Polytechnic College.

The school now has 151 full-time teachers and 1,500 students (there were 500 students prior to the "cultural revolution"). Each

Students in the computer department of the Angang Polytechnic College doing exercises.



year, the school receives 1.6-1.8 million yuan from the company.

The college particularly excels in establishing specialties to meet the needs of production, and in providing the company with competent people whenever they are needed.

Two of the company's six deputy managers are graduates of the company-run colleges or secondary specialized schools. There are also about 30 graduates of the company's different colleges and schools who are now working as senior leaders at different metallurgical enterprises throughout the country.

Encouraging Study

Promoting education among workers is by no means an easy task. At the very beginning many people shunned the programme. They thought study was useless when they already had a secure job, known metaphorically as "holding an iron rice bowl." Others withdrew because they worried too much about their little schooling and advancing age.

Given this, the company leadership introduced a series of measures to encourage study. The workers and staff of every factory, mine and workshop must reach a certain educational level in fixed period of time. This is also a major criterion in assessing and rewarding advanced units. The educational levels of individuals are considered in their work assignments, promotions and wage increases. Apprentices who have worked for a year and done very well in examinations may end their apprenticeship early, and those who fail to pass their courses will not be promoted. A suitable educational level is required when promoting cadres. Prerequisites are only relaxed for elder workers and staff members who have difficulties in study.

To ensure the teaching quality, the various company colleges and schools draw up their teaching plans and give examinations according to standards set by the state. While stressing specialized study in iron and steel industry, these schools also try to provide standardized education. They send their teachers to universities to renew their knowledge and raise their teaching skills.

A Young Worker's Experience

Guan Xiulou is a maintenance worker in the company's oil refinery. In 1971, when he joined the company, although he had graduated from junior middle school, his educational level was only a little bit higher than that of a primary school graduate. He was very fond of wrestling, and often got into fist fights with others.

Two years ago, the company tested its young workers in junior middle school courses. Guan failed twice, getting only 20 out of a possible 100 points. Feeling terribly ashamed of himself, he decided to attend a continuing study class to complete his junior middle school education.

Study is strenuous for everybody, and for Guan it was particularly difficult. He listened carefully in class. After class he did all the exercises for each lesson at least once, and sometimes, more than a dozen times if he met with something which he found especially tough. He gave up all entertainment, even cinema and TV, and always shut himself up at home on Sundays. To encourage him, his wife did most of the family chores, and his better educated younger sister often came to coach him.

Six months later, he got 100 points in an exam and passed all the junior middle school courses. Now, he is continuing his study

in the spare-time school's senior middle class.

Looking Forward

The education programme has not only changed the outlook of the workers but has also boosted production. Today, the labour force works more efficiently with few mishaps. Moreover, the workers' enthusiasm for study has promoted scientific research and technological advancement, and has increased the company's profits.

For instance, the sintering plant saved 4.98 million yuan on fuel in 1982 after its furnace workers were sent to learn operational techniques. Some young women at the company's power plant discovered a hidden problem in operations and prevented a serious accident, after returning from a training course.

By 1982, of the company's 38,000 cadres, 21.5 per cent had completed college, 36.3 per cent, senior middle school, and 42.2 per cent, junior middle or primary school. Of the 176,500 workers, 6.7 per cent had completed senior middle school, 51.4 per cent, junior middle school, and 37.7 per cent, primary school. There were still 7,500 illiterates, accounting for 4.2 per cent of all workers. The company's workers and staff members had on the average attended school for 7.4 years by 1982.

Now, the leadership is considering taking further steps, so that by 1990, 45 per cent of the company's cadres will have completed college, 48 per cent, senior middle school, and 6.2 per cent, junior middle school. It is also planned that by then, 30-40 per cent of the workers below 45 will complete senior middle school, and the average schooling of workers and staff members will be raised to nine years. □

'Tong Fish' Creator—Tong Dizhou

from "WENHUI BAO"
(Wenhui Daily)

A NEW edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* which will soon come off the press includes a group of photos of Tong fish, a new species barely known to the world. This fish is bred by injecting a kind of nucleic acid extracted from the cytoplasm of crucian carp's eggs into the fertilized ova of a gold fish. The birth of Tong fish marks a precedent for breeding a new species according to the breeder's own designs.

The creator of this miracle in cytogenetics is a Chinese scientist, Prof. Tong Dizhou (1902-79), who was the chief founder of China's experimental embryology.

More than half a century ago when Tong graduated from the biological department of Fudan University, he made up his mind to "do something to win honour for the Chinese nation" because he believed "the Chinese are not dunces." However, in the old society, science was in a depressing state, making people with lofty ideals despair of ever fulfilling their aspirations. Later, financed by some relatives and friends, Tong went to Belgium to continue his study. As a Chinese, he was discriminated against there. Filled with patriotic feelings, he studied hard and was determined to outdo his foreign colleagues academically.

While he was doing his doctorate in a university in Brussels under a noted biologist, he was asked by the professor to peel the membrane off of a frog ovum. This was an extremely difficult task, and the professor himself had not been able to do it after many

years of efforts. Tong worked extremely hard and finally succeeded.

In the mid-1930s, when Tong was just beginning to show his talent in his career, China's fate was imperilled by Japanese aggression. At the crucial moment, Tong abruptly gave up his chance for a "special doctor's degree" he could get immediately, and returned to the motherland. In those years of war, while drifting from place to place, he still persevered in doing scientific research and wrote many papers on embryo development.

Principles of Environmental Protection

from "HUANJING BAOHU"
(Environmental Protection)

CHINA'S environmental protection is guided by the following principles:

1. Be practical and act according to our abilities. In view of the fact that there are many tasks to be undertaken and the country's financial power is still limited targets should not be set too high in drawing up environmental protection plans. The tendency to do things sluggishly must also be opposed, in order to avoid detours of "first pollution and second treatment."

2. Co-ordinate economic development with environmental protection. Environmental protection must be taken into consideration while developing the economy, and the targets for economic development should not be achieved at the expense of the environment.

When Dr. Joseph Needham, a noted British biochemist and historian of science, met Tong during his visit to China at the time, he said it was really a wonder that Tong could work under such difficult conditions.

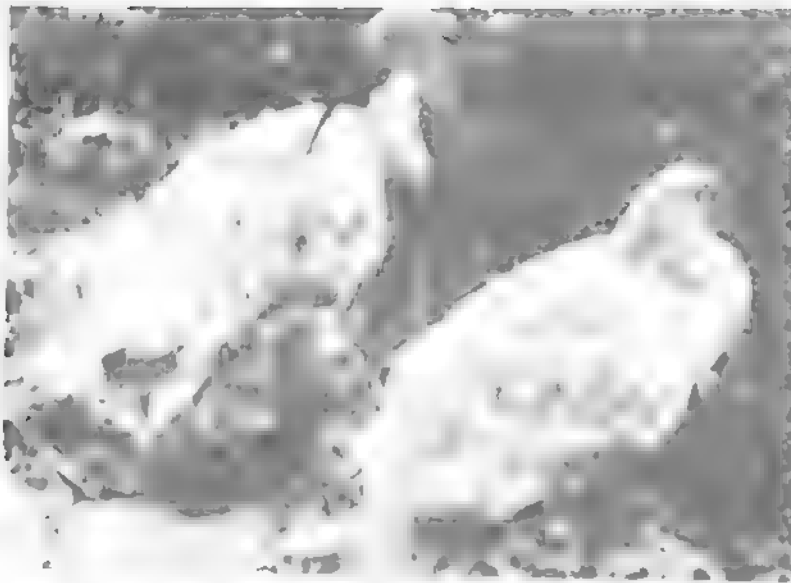
The founding of New China in 1949 reinvigorated Tong's youth, although he was in his late 40s. In the last three decades, he has scored great achievements in developmental biology, genetic biology and other fields, and brought China's molecular biology study equal with the world's most advanced levels.

3. Introduce comprehensive treatment by putting prevention first and combining prevention with treatment. This can help reduce the damage to people's health and the economy, and save costs in environmental protection. Putting prevention first means that we must have an all-round plan and distribute industries rationally.

4. Implement technological policies conducive to environmental protection. To ensure implementation of the above-mentioned principle, we must develop pollution control techniques suitable to China's conditions, use our energy and other resources more efficiently and try to control pollution during the course of production.

5. Use our natural resources comprehensively. One of China's basic methods of pollution control is to develop the multipurpose utilization of natural resources, and turn industrial wastes into usable materials.

6. Institute an environmental protection responsibility system.



Workers at a crested ibis protection station saved these two young birds by giving them food in certain places at fixed times.

the crested ibis' body is covered with white feathers, with pink wings and a scarlet head and beak. The local people call it the bird of luck.

Crested ibises used to live in many places in Japan, Korea, the Soviet Union and China. In the last several dozen years, arbitrary hunting and environmental destruction quickly reduced the number of the birds and restricted their natural habitats. So far, none have been found in Korea and the Soviet Union, and there are only three raised in captivity in Japan.

The crested ibis is one of the world's endangered species. To save this rare bird from extinction, the Chinese Ministry of Forestry and Yangxian County allocated a special fund to protect these birds, and set up crested ibis protection stations where fish and loaches are introduced at fixed times, to make up for the shortage of food.

13 Crested Ibises Found in China

from "BEIJING RIBAO"
(Beijing Daily)

ANOTHER six crested ibises have been found since China

discovered seven — two couples and three young birds — in two nests in Shaanxi Province's Yangxian County in May 1981.

A beautiful medium-sized bird

from "SHICHANG BAO"
(Market)

TEA is overstocked in many tea-producing areas. This was the case in Shexian County, Anhui Province. The commercial departments there, however, changed their bureaucratic style of work and set up a tea shop providing mail order service. Soon afterwards, all the county's overstocked tea was sold out.

A new bakery opened a short time ago in Kunming, Yunnan Province, selling bread just out of the oven, which is very much welcomed by the customers.

These two cases show that mail order service can help expand markets, and food for immediate sale is preferred by customers. Unfortunately, mail order services are quite underdeveloped in China.

For Customers' Convenience

and the variety of food made for immediate sale is dwindling.

Any businessman wants his business to be brisk. So does socialist commerce, which particularly stresses the needs of the masses. These two examples also tell us that it is not difficult to develop services which

can both promote business and provide convenience for the buyers, as it only costs about 10,000 yuan to set up a bakery and no additional equipment is needed to start a mail order service.

In doing business, some people pay no attention either to economic results or the needs of the customers. Some others are only interested in big factories and big stores, and are unwilling to set up small and scattered service establishments. We hope these people can keep the masses' needs in mind and benefit their business by offering more services for the convenience of the masses.

Historical Nature Study

A new branch of learning—historical nature study—has attained promising achievements in China over the past 30 years. Scientists and historians in this field study the states and evolution of the natural world through recorded history, looking for patterns in natural phenomena.

After the founding of New China in 1949, the state decided to begin large-scale economic construction, making it necessary to consider earthquake activities in the country. The Chinese Academy of Sciences asked historians to sort through about 10,000 pieces of relevant information from about 8,000 history books from 1953 to 1955. Their effort was crystallized into the *Chronicle of Earthquake Activities in China*. According to this book and various other historical references, seismologists worked out distribution maps of earthquake epicentres and quake intensities in China's history, as well as a division map of earthquakes in China. After the 1965 Xingtai and 1976 Tangshan earthquakes, seismologists further studied the earthquake indicators in the light of historical data. They used modern mathematical analyses to systematize an earthquake chronicle and probe the cycle of severe earthquakes in China's history, so as to make long- and medium-range predictions. This method of earthquake prediction is unique to China.

Since the rise of radio astronomy in the 1950s, astronomers the world over have generally agreed that the crab-shaped nebula, a strong source of radio waves, is the remains of an exploding super-

nova which had been observed and recorded in China in 1054, during the Song Dynasty. At their request, Chinese scientists collected historical data about novas and supernovas. In the 1970s, they also gathered references to other astronomical phenomena, including meteors, northern lights, sunspots and the rotation of the earth, as well as chronicles of the tides.

In the past decade, the world climate has become abnormal. In 1972, the famous Chinese meteorologist and geologist Zhu Kezhen (1890-1974) published his thesis *A Primary Study of Meteorological Changes in China in the Past 5,000 Years*. He cited many historical books and archaeological data dealing with temperature changes over the past five millennia. Then in 1981, the Meteorological Science Institute under the Central Meteorological Bureau compiled and published *The Distribution Map of Droughts and Floods in China in the Past 500 Years*, which uses isograms to sort out the historical data indicating the occurrence of drought and flood in China's history. This has great academic and practical value.

At present, historical geography is of great help in locating underground water resources (such as ancient river paths and ancient wells and springs), city planning, improving the environment and restoring the ecological balance. For example, the hydroarchaeological survey in the upper reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River in 1974 and 1975 helped establish

the location for the first dam on the river, the Gezhouba Dam, by providing the project with historical hydrological information.

There have been many ancient accounts of biological abnormalities, and Chinese scientists have begun to study abnormal reflowering, biological clocks, hairy persons and wildmen (like the Abominable Snowman).

One important goal of historical nature study is to find out the interrelations among different natural phenomena, for instance, to study northern lights, sunspots, planetary movements, earthquakes, warm winters and abnormal reflowering concurrently. In this way, specialists found that within a cycle of about 60 years, a variety of different phenomena undergo obvious changes at about the same time. As this type of research continues, it may help predict changes in natural conditions and the occurrence of natural disasters.

Although new in its present form, historical nature study actually has a long history. As early as 3,000 years ago, inscriptions on bones and tortoise shells in China already recorded sunspots, solar and lunar eclipses, wind, rain, thunder and lightning. The ancient Chinese rulers, being very superstitious, paid special attention to observing and recording natural disasters and abnormalities. Their narratives have become a weapon in the modern scientists' hand when they set out to fight natural disasters.

Our Chinese ancestors had a long tradition of compiling and revising calendars according to their observation of astronomical phenomena. Drawing on their observations, they ascertained the length of the solar year, calculated the

occurrence of solar eclipses, worked out phenological calendars in accordance with data on the periodic occurrence of such natural phenomena as migration and blossoming, and studied the cycles of earthquakes and locusts.

All these have turned out to be a rich legacy for the contemporary Chinese scientists who specialize in historical nature study.

Use of Computers Spreading Rapidly

Computer use in China has jumped sharply in the past six years, with electronic "brains" doing everything from calculating satellite orbits to predicting crop infestations.

To improve management practices, a national economic information system based on computers is being developed. Part of it is already in place, advising banks and trading corporations on business management, and the transportation, textile, metallurgy and machine-building industries on factory management. Good results have been reported.

China's railways are directing freight traffic to the 6,000 stations throughout the country with the help of computers. The resulting increase in efficiency saves the unnecessary use of nearly 1,000 freight cars every day.

In agriculture, preventive measures based on computerized forecasts of the weather and the spread of plant diseases and pests help reduce grain losses by millions of tons a year.

In 1981, signs of an unexpected flood on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River were detected early by computers analysing hydrological data. As a result, officials were able to

issue warnings in time, and great stretches of farmland in the river's lower reaches were saved from inundation.

Computer technology is also being used in calculating satellite orbits, conducting the census, and exploring for and developing petroleum deposits.

By the end of 1981, there were 3,900 small, medium-sized and large computers and more than 10,000 microcomputers in use in China. In 1982, the country produced 214 small, medium-sized and large computers and 7,200 microcomputers, up 25 per cent from the year earlier.

In the next few years, China's computer industry growth rate will be 20 to 30 per cent annually.

At present, special attention is being paid to developing microcomputers while working on some medium-sized and big ones that are badly needed for nationwide economic planning. China's goal is to establish its own computer application systems by the mid-1990s or by the end of the century.

China started developing computer technology in the later half of the 1950s. There are now about 100,000 people in China engaged in computer research, production, teaching and servicing. They are working in 10 research institutes, 30 manufacturing units, 30 application, development and servicing units and more than 90 colleges and universities. About 2,500 students of computer technology graduate from these schools each year.

Of China's 29 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, 22 have established computer departments. Most of the industrial ministries under the State Council have also set up their own computer centres and research institutes for applied technology.



Champion Walker Xu Yongju

Last September at the 1983 World Cup Walking Championships, defending 10-km champion Cook from Australia and 5-km champion Sharypova from the Soviet Union were surprised to find themselves closely followed by two short Chinese women walking very fast, in small steps. They quickened their pace, in order to leave the Chinese women far behind in the 10-km race. But, at the 8.5-km mark the Chinese athletes left the champions behind instead.

Twenty-year-old Xu Yongju won the race in a world record time of 45 minutes, 15.4 seconds, and led her comrades to the team title victory in the 10-km walk, held in Bergen, Norway.

The news shocked the sports world. This was the first time Chinese women had participated in the world championships. Coming from a country with a long feudal history during which most women were confined to the house with bound feet, nobody expected them to walk away with the championship.

The new world champion, Xu Yongju, was born into a peasant family in Jinxian County, Liaoning Province. Because her three elder brothers were very busy farming, the heavy household chores such as fetching water, making meals and tending the kitchen garden fell to Xu, the only daughter. The hard work made her strong. Her primary school was two km away, giving her a chance to walk and run a great deal. When she grew up, she began to show talent for track and field.

In middle school, Xu placed third in a 1,500-metre race at a local sports meet. Although her physique was not ideal for an athlete (she weighs 49 kilogrammes and is just 1.62 metres tall, with short legs), her strength and will-power attracted the attention of the provincial track and field team, and she was recruited as a long-distance runner. When the women's national walking team was established in 1981, Xu was one of its first members.

Xu quickly showed that the confidence in her was not misplaced. In 1982 she set the national record for the 5-km walk, and last year at the Fifth National Games she took the gold in the 10-km walk, completing the course in 49 minutes, 4 seconds. Six months later, the world record was hers.

Before the championships in Norway, a local newspaper said the Chinese team, although new-born, was very hard and not to be underestimated. This hardness comes from their hard training. Each team member must walk 30 km each day, regardless of the weather. To use her arms more effectively, Xu swings them 4,000 times holding 0.5 kg iron ball in each hand everyday. And to adapt herself to changing weather conditions, she walks in long sportswear in the summer and in shorts in the winter.

Xu Yongju and her team-mates will be taking part in the 4th World

Cup Walking Championships in Britain in 1985.

Biological Control Of Pests

In order to reduce the possible hazard to humans posed by chemical pesticides, natural enemies are now being used to control pests and crop diseases on 8.76 million hectares of China's farmland. The state is also trying to popularize this method all across the country, according to scientists at a national biological control symposium held last October in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province.

China is up to world standards in many respects in biological control research, especially in artificial propagation of trichogramma, a deadly killer of harmful insects of rice, corn and trees. It acts as a parasite on the insects' eggs, developing at their expense. Artificially fertilized trichogramma can propagate 60 generations successively. Results after putting the laboratory trichogramma into the

fields shows that they have normal vitality, are efficient pest killers, and have a high propagation rate. This achievement was regarded highly by foreign experts at an international symposium on the study of trichogramma held in Paris in 1982.

China has also made rapid progress in using agricultural antibiotics to control harmful insects, a brand new field throughout the world. At present, more than a dozen agricultural antibiotics are being used on about 4 million hectares of the country's farmland.

In addition, China has successfully manufactured a kind of agricultural antibiotic to kill pests, and large quantities have been put into production. China has thus become the third biggest producer of agricultural antibiotics, next to Japan and the United States.

Biological control experiments are being conducted in 13 provinces and cities including Henan, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Guangdong and Sichuan. The plants studied include vegetables, wheat, rice, cotton, fruit and tea.

My First Sixty Years in China

200 Selected Poems
Translated by Rewi Alley

The personal charm and intelligence of Tang Dynasty poet Bai Juyi emanates from his work, still vital 1,000 years after it was created.

Rewi Alley's translations from the classical Chinese combine the poet's mastery of English with a profound knowledge of China. The book is a remarkable achievement both as a work of art and as a glimpse of an ancient culture.

Published by NEW WORLD PRESS

Distributed by China International Book Trading Corporation
(Guoji Shudian)
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Woodcuts by Wo Baohua

Born in 1952 in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, Wo Baohua, of Daur nationality, taught himself woodcutting techniques as a boy. Wo is now an art editor with *Jilin Youth* magazine. Most of his woodcuts are drawn from the life of the Daur and the Mongolians. Simple, bold and vigorous, his works are clear-cut and full of the flavour of life.



My Beautiful Baby.



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